WHAT IS CLAIMED:

1. A method for monitoring alerts regarding the status of components in a computer, comprising the acts of:

receiving a plurality of alerts, said alerts providing status information about different components in a computer; and

selectively disabling the display of one or more of said alerts; and

recording status information associated with said disabled alerts in a storage medium.

2. The method of Claim 1 further comprising an act of storing whether each of said alerts is disabled or enabled in a plurality of variables.

3. The method of Claim 2, further comprising an act of storing information about said enabled and said disabled alerts in said storage medium.

4. The method of Claim 1, further comprising an act of recording a recommended course of action associated with said alerts.

5. The method of Claim 1 further comprising an act of generating a user interface which directs the selection of alerts by providing a description is said alerts.

6. The method of Claim 5 wherein said user interface enables said selected alerts in response to an enable command.

7. The method of Claim 5 wherein said user interface disables said selected alerts in response to a disable command.

8. The method of Claim 6 further comprising an act of displaying said enabled alerts in an alert notification window.

9.   The method of Claim 8 wherein said act of displaying displays the name of said component associated with one of said alerts.

10.   The method of Claim 8, wherein said act of displaying includes displaying the recommended course of action associated with one of said alerts.

11.   A method for monitoring the operational status of components in a computer comprising the acts of:

    generating a notification about the status of at least one component in a computer, said notification comprising a first code which contains data about said component, said first code having a first data length;

    receiving said notification at a remote computer; and

    transforming said notification into a user-friendly display message comprising a second data length, wherein said second data length is significantly greater than said first data length.

12.   The method of Claim 11 including an act of sending on a computer network, said notification to said remote computer.

13.   The method of Claim 12 wherein said act of sending performs a Simple Network Management Protocol transaction.

14.   The method of Claim 13 wherein said first code contains an index and wherein said act of transforming uses said index to identify said user-friendly display message.

15.   The method of Claim 14 wherein said index is predefined by a management information base.

16.   The method of Claim 15 wherein said management information base associates information about said component with said index.

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17. The method of Claim 16 wherein said act of transforming includes using said information about said component from said management information base to generate said user-friendly display message.

18. The method of Claim 17 further comprising an act of displaying a description of said notification.

19. The method of Claim 17 further comprising an act of displaying a recommended course of action for said notification.

20. A method for monitoring the operational status of components in a computer comprising the acts of:

   providing a management information base which is configured to associate a plurality of indexes with different operational parameters related to said components;

   generating at least one alert, said alert providing information about a change in an operational parameter in at least one component, said alert comprising said index which identifies at least one of said operational parameters;

   receiving said alert from said first computer; and
   transforming said index in said alert into a user-friendly display message.

21. The method of Claim 22, wherein said index is a variable in said first management information base.

22. The method of Claim 23, wherein said variable is compatible with a computer network which performs Simple Network Management Protocol transactions.

23. A method for displaying a system management user interface comprising the acts of:

   providing at least one computer having a plurality of components;

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generating a plurality of alerts, said alerts associated with the monitoring of status information about said plurality of components;

displaying said alerts;

selecting at least two of said alerts; and

disabling the display of said selected alerts in response to a single command.

24. The method of Claim 23 wherein said act of disabling disables the display of a combination of said alerts in response to a single command.

25. The method of Claim 23 wherein said alerts are associated with the status of a plurality of components in a plurality of network servers.

26. The method of Claim 23, wherein said act of selecting allows the selection of at least two alerts corresponding to at least two network servers.

27. The method of Claim 23 wherein said act of displaying organizes a subset of said alerts into a processor group.

28. The method of Claim 23 wherein said act of displaying organizes some of said alerts into a cooling group.

29. The method of Claim 23 wherein said act of displaying organizes some of said alerts into a temperature group.

30. The method of Claim 23 wherein said act of displaying organizes some of said alerts into a power supply group.

31. The method of Claim 23 wherein said act of displaying organizes some of said alerts relates into a fault isolation group.

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